

BAND NEWS



THE VINES 'IN THE STUDIO AND BACK ON TRACK'

"Edgier and wilder" third album in the bag after sessions in Australia

The Vines: on the rocks (although also not on the rocks anymore)

The Vines have overcome the traumas of recent years and completed their third album.

The band have just ended a four-week stint in Sydney's BJB Studios with producer Wayne Connerly, and made an album he says is "edgier and wilder".

The sessions mark a return to action for The Vines, who looked on the verge of collapse when frontman **Craig Nicholls** was diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome.

"There's a bunch of different styles on this record," Connerly told *NME*. "Craig's got a bit of that space-rock stuff, but he's also got some intense wild punk rock. There's some soaring pop stuff with strings too. He's always been a big fan of that lush production."

Working titles include 'Nothing's Coming', 'Any Sound' and 'Take Me Back'. Relations within the band are fine too, says Connerly.

"The morale's been great. Craig doesn't really devote himself to the serious issues of the day, he devotes most of his energy to hiding behind doors and scaring people. It's great to see his eccentric, playful side."

Bassist **Patrick Matthews** has played no role in the making of the album since his side project **Youth Group** took off. However, the rest of the band say he's welcome to rejoin them if he wants to.

The album is expected to be released next year, though management have gone on record as saying that the band will "never" go on a traditional tour again.

THE VINES ALBUM FACTFILE

Title: TBC

Producer: Wayne Connerly

Recorded at: BJB Studios, Sydney

Musicians: Craig Nicholls, Ryan Griffiths, Hamish Rosser

Track titles: 'Nothing's Coming', 'Any Sound', 'Take Me Back'

BAND BITS



Coldplay's Guy Berryman: laying down new tracks

COLDPLAY

During a short break between their last shows for 2005 and European tours, **Coldplay** headed into a London studio to record new material. It's thought the two new tracks will emerge as the B-sides to next single 'Talk', which hits the shops on December 19.

THE HIVES

The Hives have played their last shows for 2005 and will begin recording at the start of next year. Speaking during a show in Sydney (October 21), frontman **Howlin' Pelle Almqvist** told the crowd that Australia was "the last place we wanted to tour" in promotion of their 2004 release, and that they were heading home to Sweden for Christmas.

HARD-FI

Hard-Fi will re-release 'Cash Machine' as a single on December 26. An exclusive remix of the track by hip-hop star Roots Manuva is set to feature as one of the B-sides, while the video for the single has been directed by Dougal Wilson, previously best known for his work with The Streets, LCD Soundsystem and Dizzee Rascal.

The Subways

Currently on a mammoth UK tour, **The Subways** have equally big plans for the follow-up to this year's debut album 'Young For Eternity'. Singer Billy Lunn told *NME*: "We're looking at working with all sorts of producers for the second record because each of the new songs has got its own personality. It might not work out but fuck it!"

Rufus Wainwright

Combining both his acclaimed 'Want One' and 'Want Two' LPs, **Rufus Wainwright** is set to release the double album 'Want' on November 28. The package will include two new tracks - a live cover of Leonard Cohen's 'Chelsea Hotel No 2' and 'In With The Ladies', co-written with Alex Gifford of Propellerheads. A UK tour starts this month.